Equus Journeys
HORSEBACK TRAVEL & EQUESTRIAN TRADITIONS SINCE 1972

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Epona - Train and Trail

SPAIN

Join a **riding holiday in Andalusia, Spain**, with programmes that combine trail riding and classical dressage on Andalusian horses. Beginners through to advanced riders can enjoy riding excellently schooled horses, with instructors that have vast experience and the highest qualifications. Alongside the **dressage training in Spain**, explore the rolling countryside on beautiful trails, cross a beach at a canter, relax by the pool and explore the stunning city of Seville.

Dressage stays	**7 days/ 5 days riding**	**From £1,732**		Open to non-riders


Horses and sunflower - the ideal combination for a great riding holiday!


Enjoy rides out in the beautiful Andalusian countryside


Dressage training at Epona, in Andalusia

ITINERARY

Highlights

- This holiday offers a great balance between instruction and trail riding.

- Stay in a charming 4 star hotel in the nearby town of Carmona.

- Enjoy wine tasting and authentic Andalusian cuisine.

- Visit the famous Royal School of Equestrian Art in Jerez.

- The riding centre is BHS approved so you can be assured of the quality of horses and tuition.

Day 1 — 1 : SEVILLE - CARMONA - No riding

Alcazar de la Reina Hotel

Arriving into Seville (flight not included). You can be met by taxi there and transferred to your hotel in Carmona, just 20 minutes away by car. The cost of this transfer is not included, and you may choose the option of a free transfer from the train station at 4:30 pm.

You will be shown to your room and depending on the your arrival time - and mood -, you may choose to take a dip in the outdoor swimming pool, lounge out on the patio or have a classic Spanish siesta!

Carmona is a remarkable city, renowned for its history visible from its varied styles of architecture influenced by the people who have lived and occupied the city throughout the ages.

In the evening, you will have your first taste of Sevillian and Andalusian cuisine, which has many delicious traditional dishes. You will have dinner with your host and over the course of the meal, Fernando will explain the itinerary for the rest of your week

You will spend the night at the hotel.

Day 2 — 2 : RIDING AND TRAINING ON THE HACIENDA - 3 hours riding

Alcazar de la Reina Hotel

After breakfast you will be collected from your hotel and driven to the hacienda.

You will explore the Seville landscape as you head out on your first ride through olive groves and eucalyptus trees; when in season, you will have the opportunity to see fields of sunflowers, cotton and melon plants.

Heading back to the hacienda for lunch you will have an opportunity to taste some of the local wine and olive oil.

After relaxing in the garden or by the pool, later in the afternoon you will have your first dressage lesson.

At the end of the day, when all lessons are finished, you will be transferred back to your hotel in Carmona.

In the evening, you will make your own dinner plans maybe choosing to eat in one of the local restaurants or even at the hotel itself (dinner not included).

Day 3 — 3 : JEREZ - TRAINING ON THE HACIENDA - 1 hour riding

Alcazar de la Reina Hotel

After breakfast, you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to The Royal Andalusian Riding School in Jerez (1h30 hour drive).

Renowned throughout the world for their breath-taking equestrian performance, "Those Amazing Dancing Andalusian Stallions", these shows are a real delight as the horses perform intricate and demanding movements with effortless grace and control. Entry for the show is €27 - payable locally.

In the afternoon, you will head back to Epona for a late lunch and then dressage lessons will take place in the cool of the late afternoon.

At the end of the day, you will be transferred back to your hotel. You are free to organise your evening meal however you would like.

Day 4 — 4 : RIDING AND TRAINING ON THE HACIENDA - 3 hours riding

Alcazar de la Reina Hotel

After breakfast, Fernando will be waiting to drive you from your hotel to the hacienda.

Today, you will join another wonderful trail ride which will take you to the Roman Bridge and along the length of the river. Depending on the time of year, you could be riding through fields of sunflowers, wheat, cotton, oranges, peaches or through olive groves.

It will then be back to the Hacienda for a late lunch, after which you should have time for a siesta or a swim! Lessons will take place later in the afternoon.

At the end of the day, you will be transferred back to your hotel in Carmona where you will have dinner (payable locally).

Day 5 — 5 : RIDE TO MATALASCANAS - DRESSAGE TRAINING - 3-4 hours riding

Alcazar de la Reina Hotel

An early morning start includes a transfer out to the seaside village of Matalascañas where beautiful Spanish horses will be waiting for your day's ride. This trail will take you through the Donana Natural Park, one of Europe’s last wilderness regions and one of the largest wildlife reservations in Spain. The park is home to deer, boar, fox, lynx, imperial eagles, kites, vultures, storks, flamingos and herons. There should also be a fantastic opportunity to canter along the beach for those who wish to (please note: beach riding is not possible in July/August).

Back to the hacienda for a late lunch and some relaxation time by the pool until it's time for your lesson in the, cooler, late afternoon.

After the final lesson of the day, you will be transferred to Carmona for dinner (payable locally) and to your hotel for the night.

Day 6 — 6 : RIDING AND TRAINING - VISIT TO SEVILLE - 2-3 hours riding

Alcazar de la Reina Hotel

After breakfast you will be collected from your hotel and driven to the hacienda.

Today you will set off across open country for your last ride of the week. You will ride through olive and orange groves and watch farmers working the land until you arrive at an Andalucian mule stud farm. You will ride back to Epona for lunch. You will then be taken to the wonderful, historic city of Seville to enjoy the sights or to go shopping - including a stop at the best leather and tack shop in town!

Day 7 — 7 : CARMONA - SEVILLE - No riding

There maybe time to relax this morning and enjoy one last swim before packing up your things and being transferred back to Seville airport in time for your flight home. Transfers from the hotel to the airport will start at 8:00 am and the last transfer will be at 11:00 am.

If you book an evening flight, you may choose to leave your luggage at the airport and set off to explore a bit more of Seville.

DATES & PRICES

DEPARTURE	RETURN	PRICE WITHOUT FLIGHTS	STATUS
08/11/2026	14/11/2026	£1,732	Guaranteed departure
15/11/2026	21/11/2026	£1,732	Guaranteed departure
22/11/2026	28/11/2026	£1,732	Guaranteed departure
29/11/2026	05/12/2026	£1,732	Guaranteed departure
06/12/2026	12/12/2026	£1,732	Guaranteed departure
03/01/2027	09/01/2027	£1,785	Open
10/01/2027	16/01/2027	£1,785	Guaranteed departure
17/01/2027	23/01/2027	£1,785	Open
24/01/2027	30/01/2027	£1,785	Open
31/01/2027	06/02/2027	£1,785	Open
07/02/2027	13/02/2027	£1,785	Open
14/02/2027	20/02/2027	£1,785	Guaranteed departure
21/02/2027	27/02/2027	£1,785	Guaranteed departure
28/02/2027	06/03/2027	£1,785	Open
07/03/2027	13/03/2027	£1,785	Open
14/03/2027	20/03/2027	£1,785	Open
21/03/2027	27/03/2027	£1,785	Guaranteed departure
28/03/2027	03/04/2027	£1,785	Open
04/04/2027	10/04/2027	£1,785	Open
11/04/2027	17/04/2027	£1,785	Guaranteed departure
18/04/2027	24/04/2027	£1,785	Open
25/04/2027	01/05/2027	£1,785	Open

02/05/2027	08/05/2027	£1,785	Open
09/05/2027	15/05/2027	£1,785	Guaranteed departure
16/05/2027	22/05/2027	£1,785	Open
23/05/2027	29/05/2027	£1,785	Open
30/05/2027	05/06/2027	£1,785	Open
06/06/2027	12/06/2027	£1,785	Open
13/06/2027	19/06/2027	£1,785	Open
20/06/2027	26/06/2027	£1,785	Open
27/06/2027	03/07/2027	£1,785	Open
04/07/2027	10/07/2027	£1,785	Open
11/07/2027	17/07/2027	£1,785	Open
18/07/2027	24/07/2027	£1,785	Open
25/07/2027	31/07/2027	£1,785	Open
01/08/2027	07/08/2027	£1,785	Open
08/08/2027	14/08/2027	£1,785	Open
29/08/2027	04/09/2027	£1,785	Open
05/09/2027	11/09/2027	£1,785	Guaranteed departure
12/09/2027	18/09/2027	£1,785	Open
19/09/2027	25/09/2027	£1,785	Open
26/09/2027	02/10/2027	£1,785	Open
03/10/2027	09/10/2027	£1,785	Open
10/10/2027	16/10/2027	£1,785	Open
17/10/2027	23/10/2027	£1,785	Open
24/10/2027	30/10/2027	£1,785	Open
31/10/2027	06/11/2027	£1,785	Open
07/11/2027	13/11/2027	£1,785	Open
14/11/2027	20/11/2027	£1,785	Open
21/11/2027	27/11/2027	£1,785	Open
28/11/2027	04/12/2027	£1,785	Open
05/12/2027	11/12/2027	£1,785	Open

Price details

- Flights to your destination (international/domestic) are not included, but can be booked on request - please contact us for rates.

- Rates are per person, based on two riders sharing a twin or double room (half-board)

- Lessons are held with 2-4 people.

- If you sign up to the ride as a solo rider and there are no other riders likely to share your room, you will be charged a single room supplement of approx. €345/£295/$400 (2026/2027). You will then be reimbursed if a sharer is found for you at a later date.

- Pick-up transfers are available from San Justa train station at set times (4:30pm). For pick-ups at the airport, a taxi driver can be booked for meeting on arrival. Please enquire to know the exact rate.
Please note that the dinner on the first day is served at 7:30pm.

- Please note: during the months of July and August, there will be no beach riding.

- Shorter programmes are available from December-February and July-August:
> 4 nights, 3 days riding - €1375/£1180/$1570 in 2026, or €1415/£1210/$1620
Please note that the short version do not include beach riding.

- Rate for non-riders: €1075/£925/$1225 in 2026, or €1110/£950/$1265 in 2027.

- Special rate under 12yo - 15% discount. Children under 3 get free accommodation with their parents.

- Extras (subject to availability, paid locally):
1h group lesson: €70 in 2026 or €75 in 2027
1h semi-private group: €85 or €90 in 2027
High school classes with Andalusian schoolmaster: €110 in 2026 or €115 in 2027
1h trail ride: €60 in 2026 or €65 in 2027

Activities for non-riders (subject to availability, paid locally):
- Guitar lessons (on request)
- Bike (on request)
- Land Rover tour of the Donana (on request)
- Transfer to the beach - approx. €35
- Transfer to Jerez - approx. €27
- Flamenco classes - approx. €150
- Golf

- SPECIAL DATES (2026)
SEMANA SANTA (Holy Week) March 29-04 April
FERIA DE ABRIL (Seville Fair) April 21-26
FERIA DEL CABALLO (Jerez Horse Fair) May 09-16
FERIA DE CARMONA May 17-23

- SPECIAL DATES (2027)
SEMANA SANTA (Holy Week) March 21-28
FERIA DE ABRIL (Seville Fair) April 13-18
FERIA DEL CABALLO (Jerez Horse Fair) April 24-1 May
FERIA DE CARMONA May 13-16
Please Note
The itinerary may be modified at anytime for security reasons, meteorological or events beyond our control such as blocked roads, rivers in flood, drought, strikes and local holidays. Equus Journeys, our local partners and their local guides will always strive to find the best solution and will alter the itinerary as needed.
The names of the hotels and accommodation are given for information only and depending on availability, they may be modified without notice and replaced by another of a similar standard.

Price includes

SUPPORT TEAM

1 English speaking teacher

INLAND TRANSPORTS

Transfers from Santa Justa Train Station at 4.30 p.m on the first day

Airport transfer on the last day

ACCOMMODATION

Double room in 4* hotel

MEALS

Half board from breakfast on day 2 to breakfast day 7
Dinner on day 1

EXTRAS

1 hour access to the hotel sauna (to be arranged locally)

Price doesn't include

MEALS

Dinners from day 2 to day 7 are not included in the price of the trip
Beverages and personal extras

TRANSPORT

International flights

EXTRAS

Tips to the local team

INSURANCE

Cancellation and travel insurance are not included in the above listed price. Please note that insurance is mandatory. We recommend taking out an insurance policy as soon as your trip is booked to cover you in case of cancellation

Optional

ACCOMMODATION

Single room supplement

TRANSPORT

Airport transfer on the first day if not willing to go to the train station

EQUESTRIAN INFO

Horses

A stable of 40 horses of all levels. Most are Pure Bred Spanish horses, but you will also be able to find some Andalusians and Andalusian crosses. Instructors will match you to the horse that suits you best depending on your level, your approach and your temperament.
There are separate trail horses for riding out and dressage horses for the lessons.

Guide & local team

Fernando runs the courses at the centre and he will come to collect you in the mornings to drive you to the hacienda for your lessons.

Viviane and Catalina, his daughters, are accomplished dressage riders and will be your instructors throughout your stay. All Epona instructors are qualified by the British Horse Society, Association of British Riding Schools and the Spanish Equestrian Federation which means that they are trained to always have the horse and rider's safety at heart. Viviane studied at the renowned Andulusian school in Jerez . Both Viviane and Catalina speak English and Spanish.

They also train their dressage horses themselves and are happy to answer any of your question during the daily training sessions!

Minimum riding ability

MINIMUM RIDING ABILITY

Typically, our trail and training riders are adults, with no upper age restriction, who are comfortable in a steady trot and canter, along open trails on a

well mannered horse. Complete beginners cannot be accepted.

If there are large differences in the level of the group then they will split the rides and lessons into smaller groups of riders of the same level. Children from 12 years old are welcome provided they are at ease at walk, trot and canter.

Rider weight limit: 90 kg. Riders over the limit please contact us.

PACE

The pace is dictated by the ability of the group and the groups will be decided on riding ability.

The group sizes will be kept as small as possible for intermediate or advanced riders. The main paces are walk and trot, although canters are possible for intermediate or advanced riders. You must be comfortable to canter in open spaces and be balanced in the saddle.

TACKING ABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

Everyone is responsible for their own horse, the groom and instructor will help you to saddle and unsaddle your horse if necessary.

TRIP CONDITIONS AND REQUESTED EXPERIENCE

You do not need to be an advanced rider but you do need to have basic riding skills and to be in good physical condition.

Teenagers aged 12+ are welcome as long as they can walk, trot and canter independently and are able to control their horses on trails.

EQUESTRIAN EQUIPMENT

Dressage saddles and simple bridles or bits.
If necessary, the team also provides spurs and a whip.

Helmets are mandatory and there are some available locally for guests to borrow. Equus Journeys highly recommends that riders bring their own hats to ensure a proper fit.

TRAVEL INFO

COMFORT

You will stay in a charming 4 star hotel in the heart of Carmona, in double or twin rooms. Their are ensuite bathrooms and towels are provided. The hotel has a restuarant, a tapas bar and an Irish bar, as well as a swimming pool and patio areas. In the town of Carmona there are many restaurants to choose from - simple tapas to silver service - or you can choose to eat at the hotel or use their room service.

During the day, at the riding centre's hacienda, there is a swimming pool (towels will be provided), a relaxing lounge and outdoor seating areas. You will have lunch in their dining room each day.

Please note: Epona has good Wi-fi service, however at the hotel the connection is limited.

MEALS

Breakfast is continental and dinner is had all together, buffet style, at the hacienda. Apart from the first evening where you will enjoy a buffet dinner with your host Fernando, dinners are not included. You may choose to eat in the restaurant at the hotel or in local restaurants.

CLIMATE

Situated in southern Spain, not far from the African continent, Seville enjoys a Mediterranean climate. Being set inland from the sea, in the vast Guadalquivir plain, this allows for relatively mild and clement weather all year long.

The average yearly temperature is around 19.2 °C.

Seville’s summers can be long and scorching with average temperatures often over 25 °C from May to October; with a record high of 46.6 °C. The temperatures peak between June and September with the temperature routinely reaching/ or topping 30 °C.

TIPS

It is customary to leave a tip in restaurants in Spain. Around 10% of the bill is the standard, although it is often include – so do check. Tipping both in restaurants and to the team at the hacienda rests at your discretion.

Many of our guests ask if it is appropriate to tip our instructors and staff. The answer is, that though it is not compulsory in this country, it is very welcome indeed! It is a kind and thoughtful way of showing appreciation if you were happy with their service. On the other hand, no-one will be upset or offended if you choose not to.
We suggest two alternatives when you leave a tip. You can hand out the chosen amount personally to the staff member or members to whom you wish to show your appreciation, or you can put a general amount in an envelope and hand it to a member of the Garcia family (preferably Vivi), to be divided up equally, or according to your specifications, among the staff. Please do not give tips to be divided, to any members of staff, to avoid confusion and sometimes problems among the staff.

PACKING LIST

Please pack carefully and sensibly: the following guide is here to give you an idea of what to bring. This list must be adapted depending on the season and individual needs.

In Spring, Autumn and especially in the summer months, it can get very hot, so to avoid feeling sweaty and sticky all the time, try to choose natural fabrics, especially cotton. Dress at Epona is very casual, even for the visits, jeans and T-shirts or a summery dress, are fine. For emergencies, at the hotel there is a laundry service.

Head
- Riding helmet
- Sunhat
- Sunglasses - with a cord attached so they don't fly off when riding

Upper Body
- Half or long-sleeved cotton shirts (to provide protection from the sun) or T-shirt in a quick-drying material
- A lightweight fleece or jumper
- Swimsuit
- If coming in winter, autumn or spring, a light shower jacket (the kind you can fold up into a little ball)

Legs
- 2 pairs of jodhpurs or riding trousers
- 1 pair of casual trousers (tracksuit bottoms, leggings or jeans)
- Cotton or synthetic underwear (non-irritant)

Hands and feet
- Short jodhpur boots and half chaps are the best option as they are much cooler and easier to transport, but if you are used to riding in your long boots and want to wear them it is fine.
- Lightweight shoes, sandals or trainers for the evenings
- Several pairs of socks
- Gloves

Medical kit
- Any medication you regularly take
- Sunscreen and lip balm - should be high factor
- Insect repellent, preferably containing deet
- Blister plasters in case of any rubs
- Antiseptic cream, plasters, aspirin, anti-histamine, insect-bite salve etc...
- Spare prescription glasses/contact lenses
- Eye drops
- Imodium or similar anti-diarrhoea medication
- Antiseptic wipes
- Handwash gel

Our Recommendations
- Backpacks cannot be worn whilst riding. We recommend a small bumbag or a coat with pockets so that you can carry small items with you during the day (passport, camera, sunscreen, lipbalm etc)
- We recommend travelling in your riding boots and carrying your hat and some riding clothes in your hand luggage - then if your luggage goes astray you are still able to ride!
- You should also bring a copy of your passport/insurance in case you lose your documents. You can also save a copy into your mobile phone.

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

1. **Travel light.** It's a little known fact, but the lighter you pack, the better for the environment as heavy bags will produce higher emissions (when flying a plane or driving a car!).
2. **Reduce plastic waste.** Take your favorite reusable bottle with you. Avoid single-use bags, cups, or straws.
3. **Preserve nature.** Always take your rubbish with you during the ride and recycle them. Leave all the flowers or plants as you found them, and never get too close when observing wildlife. Make sure to use eco-friendly products such as body wash or laundry detergent (if camping) to protect both your skin and the environment.
4. **Choose your experiences carefully.** Respect animal life by not participating in any activities that abuse wild animals (shows, elephant rides, etc.).
5. **Support local populations.** Buy local handicrafts, be respectful of customs, and learn about the culture of local communities.
6. **Share!** Raise awareness among your family and friends about sustainable tourism.

For more information please see this page .